

Annual Reports and Warrant
of the Town of
Middlefield, Massachusetts
1997

ANNUAL REPORTS

**of the
TOWN of**

MIDDLEFIELD

Massachusetts

Fiscal Year 1997

OFFICES HOURS AND MEETINGS

SELECTMEN:	7:30 p.m. Mondays
TAX COLLECTOR:	7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Mondays 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Saturdays
TREASURER:	7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Mondays 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Saturdays
ASSESSORS:	7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Mondays 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Saturdays
TOWN CLERK:	7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Mondays 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Saturdays

TOWN OFFICE PHONES:

ASSESSORS 623-8966

SELECTMEN 623-2079 (manned only during regular meeting hours)

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Fiscal Year 1997
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**Town of Middlefield
1998 Annual Town Meeting Warrant**

Hampshire, ss.

To Either of the Constables of the Town of Middlefield,
Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs, to meet in the Middlefield Town Hall in said Middlefield on Saturday the 2nd of May next, at 11:45 in the forenoon then and there to act on the following articles to wit:

ARTICLE 1. To choose on one ballot:

An Auditor, Moderator, Town Clerk, and Tree Warden for a term of one year. An Assessor, Cemetery Commissioner, two Constables, two Finance Committee members, Trustee of Public Library, two Planning Board members, School Committee member, Selectman, Tax Collector, Treasurer, and Zoning Board of Appeals member for a term of three years. The polls will be open at 12:00 p.m. and may be closed at 5:00 p.m. The business meeting will start at 1:30 p.m.

ARTICLE 2. To hear the report of the Selectmen, Treasurer, Tax Collector, Assessors and School Committee and act thereon.

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the salaries of Elected Town Officials and determine the amount of salary for each Elected Official:

Moderator	\$ 100.00	Selectman, Chair	1,000.00
Town Clerk	1,000.00	Selectman	1,000.00
Treasurer	2,500.00	Selectman	1,000.00
Tax Collector	2,500.00	Auditor	45.00
Assessor, Chair	1,500.00	Constable, 1st	90.00
Assessor, 2nd	1,000.00	Constable, 2nd	90.00
Assessor, 3rd	1,000.00		

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money to defray the expenses of the Town for the fiscal year July 1, 1998 through June 30, 1999, or take any other action relating thereto:

	<u>Recommended Fy99 Appropriation</u>	<u>Fy98 Appropriation</u>	<u>Amt. +/-</u>	<u>% +/-</u>
Highway and Related Expenses:				
Snow Removal	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	0	
Highway Maintenance	43,000.00	43,000.00	0	
Unpaved Roads Materials	15,000.00	15,000.00	0	
Machinery Expense	16,000.00	16,000.00	0	
Fuel	7,000.00	6,000.00	\$1,000.00	16.67%
Holiday and Vacation Pay	3,000.00	3,000.00	0	
Health Insurance, Employees	5,000.00	5,000.00	0	
Unemployment Compensation	3,500.00	1,500.00	2,000.00	133.33%
Natural Resources:				
Dutch Elm Disease Control	150.00	150	0	
Forest Fire Protection	10.00	10	0	
Insect Pest Control	100.00	100	0	
Tree Warden	100.00	100	0	
Government:				
COBRA (Medicare)	1,200.00	800	400.00	50.00%
Elections & Registrations	1,000.00	500	500.00	100.00%
Hampshire County Retirement	9,588.00	3,111.00	6,477.00	208.20%
Health & Sanitation	10.00	10	0	
Interest, Short Term Loans	6,000.00	6,000.00	0	
Insurance	25,000.00	25,000.00	0	
Printing	750.00	750	0	
Town Counsel	1,500.00	1,500.00	0	
Social Security	2,000.00	2,000.00	0	
Office Expenses:				
Selectmen's Secretary	3,500.00	3,000.00	500.00	16.67%
Selectmen's Travel & Expense	800.00	800	0	
Office Supplies	3,000.00	3,000.00	0	
Assessors Assistant	5,500.00	5,500.00	0	
Assessors Computer Software	1,500.00	1,500.00	0	
Assessors Expense	2,000.00	1,500.00	500.00	33.33%
Assessors Registry Fees	150.00	150	0	
Assessors Tax Map Update	650.00	650	0	
Tax Collectors Expense	4,000.00	1,500.00	2500	166.67%
Miscellaneous:				
Cemetery Expense	3,600.00	3,000.00	600.00	20.00%
Civil Defense	10.00	10	0	
Council on Aging	1,000.00	1,000.00	0	
Disposal Area	18,000.00	18,000.00	0	
Dog Officer Salary	400.00	400	0	
Dog Officer Expense	300.00	300	0	
Lee Visiting Nurse	1,000.00	1,000.00	0	
Library Expense	1,000.00	1,000.00	0	
Maintenance of Public Buildings	26,000.00	22,000.00	4,000.00	18.18%
Pioneer Valley Planning Commission	60.00	60	0	
Planning Board	10.00	10	0	
Recreation Committee	1,000.00	0	1,000.00	100.00%
Street Lights	500.00	500	0	
Veterans Agent	10.00	10	0	
War Memorials & Playgrounds	<u>2,000.00</u>	<u>1,600.00</u>	<u>400.00</u>	<u>25.00%</u>
Total	\$255,898.00	\$236,021.00	\$19,877.00	8.42%

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sums of money to defray the expenditures of the Middlefield Police Department for the fiscal year 1999, or take any other action relating thereto:

Police Chief Salary	\$ 400.00
Police Expenses	4,100.00

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sums of money to defray the expenditures of the Middlefield Fire Department for the fiscal year 1999, or take any other action pertaining thereto:

Fire Chief/Forest Warden	\$ 425.00
Fire Department Expenses	4,500.00
Firehouse Note Payment	1,750.00
Interest on Firehouse Note	355.00
Dispatch Services	2,650.00
Hinsdale Ambulance	1,200.00
Huntington Ambulance	200.00

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sums of money for salaries for the following Inspectors:

Building	\$1,820.00
Board of Health/Inspection Agent	300.00
Electrical	300.00
Electrical Assistant	100.00
Oil Burner	100.00
Plumbing	300.00
Smoke Detector	100.00
Propane	100.00

ARTICLE 8. To determine the disposition of the Dog Fund.

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of \$3,000.00 for the Reserve Fund or take any other action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to carry over the balance in the basketball court fund to fiscal year 1999, or take any other action thereto.

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$339.82 from the Conservation Commission Wetland's Receipts Reserved Account to the Conservation Commission Wetland's Expense Account.

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,373.00 for Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative or take any other action thereto.

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to accept Franklin Regional Transit Authority as the official transportation agent for the Council on Aging.

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$296,027.00 for Middlefield's minimum contribution of the budget for the Gateway Regional School District for the period of July 1, 1998 through June 30, 1999, or take any other action thereto.

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,662.00 for Middlefield's share of the over-minimum contribution to the budget for the Gateway Regional School District for the period

of July 1, 1998 through June 30, 1999, or take any other action thereto, or accept as an over-minimum contribution a sum which is less than \$10,662.00 as certified by the Gateway Regional School District. *(As of the March 2, 1998 census, the Town of Middlefield had a total of 83 students in grades Pre-K-12 in district schools, representing 5.307% of students).*

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$55,609.00 for Middlefield's share of the Transportation and Debt Service (non-foundation budget) for the Gateway Regional School District for the period of July 1, 1998 through June 30, 1999, or take any other action thereto.

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to approve the amount of up to \$300,000 debt authorized on March 4, 1998 by the Gateway Regional District School Committee for financing costs of removal for health and safety reasons and the reconstruction and replacement of underground storage tanks at Blandford, Chester, Murrayfield, Russell, and RH Conwell Elementary Schools and the Gateway High/Middle School, including planning and other costs incidental and related thereto, there be and hereby is authorized under and pursuant to Chapter 71, Section 16(d) of the General Laws and the District Agreement.

(This is being done as an alternative method of funding the tank removal project. Middlefield's Fy99 Transportation and Debt Service Budget (Article 16) includes \$15,921 for outright payment of the project. If this debt article is approved by Gateway towns, the removal will be financed over a period of years rather than paid for outright, and Middlefield's share of the Fy99 Transportation & Debt Service budget would be reduced from \$55,609 to \$39,688).

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 for the Stabilization Fund or take any other action thereto.

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500.00 to defray anticipated ongoing expenditures for refurbishing, maintaining and restoring the Middlefield Museum or take any other action thereto.

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum not to exceed \$6,000.00 for the payment of principal on the Trash Compactor note.

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum not to exceed \$1,140.00 for the payment of interest on the Trash Compactor note.

ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$419.00 for Hampshire County Electric Aggregation or take any other action thereto.

ARTICLE 23. To see if the Town will vote to authorize a revolving fund under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 53 E 1/2 that may be spent on the Transfer Station without further appropriation during FY99. Funds collected may be used for the Transfer Station, for capital equipment, grounds' improvements or other related expenses to benefit the Transfer Station. The Selectmen may spend up to \$5,000 in revolving fund monies for the program during FY99.

(This is to confirm the intent of Article 6 of the February 24, 1997 Special Town Meeting. This will provide language that is acceptable to Massachusetts General Laws, and will need reauthorization at every Annual Town Meeting.)

ARTICLE 24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,150 as recommended by the Capital Planning Committee to fund the following capital requirements of town departments and committees for the year or take any other action thereto.

<u>Fire Department</u>			<i>capital</i>
Three sets of turnout gear	\$3,000		<i>requirement</i>
Two Scott air packs	4,000		<i>totals</i>
Eleven lengths of 3" fire hose	1,650		\$ 8,650
<u>Highway Department</u>			
Repairs to grader	5,000		
Plow for 4x4 truck	4,000		
Install electric service/lighting to Salt Shed	4,000		13,000
<u>Basketball Court</u>			
Asphalt, sealer, backboards, poles, landscape materials	8,000		
Liner for the basketball court for ice skating	1,500		9,500
<u>Senior Center</u>			
Install water filtration system	2,000		2,000
<u>Town Hall</u>			
New exercise mats	2,000		<u>2,000</u>
			\$35,150

ARTICLE 25. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$22,000.00 as recommended by the Capital Planning Committee to be deposited in the Stabilization Fund to be used for the future purchase of used equipment such as fire trucks, graders and highway trucks, etc. and repairs, and additions to town owned buildings. Such expenditures to be approved by a two-thirds vote of the town or take any other action thereto.

ARTICLE 26. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,500 for an audit of town records for fiscal year 1998, or take any other action thereto. *(This is a requirement of the Community Development Block Grant).*

ARTICLE 27. To see if the Town will vote to purchase a used excavator for the Highway Department at a cost not to exceed \$30,000 to be paid for by a transfer of said cost from Chapter 113 road funds account, or take any other action thereto.

ARTICLE 28. To transact any other business to come before said meeting.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting attested copies of same in the Middlefield Post Office, on the bulletin board at the Town Hall, a designated place in the Bancroft section of the Town and a designated place in Smith Hollow, seven days at least before time of holding said meeting.

Given under our hands at Middlefield the _____ day of April
in the year of Our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and ninety-eight.

Board of Selectmen:

Richard Progulske, Chairman

Ronald Radwich

Larry Pease

I have this day posted attested copies of herein warrant as directed

Constable of Middlefield

Date

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN REPORT

El Nino has re-written the weather record books for this year. Middlefield snow storms of past years just did not exist and the cold temperature never arrived from the North. Most of the winter temperature stayed in the 20 to 40 degree range, very few days were in the teens. This however brought ice storms and required extra sand and salt which used up a great deal of our snow budget.

The Board of Selectmen can report some accomplishments this past year. We have received a grant for \$1,800,000 from the Department of Housing and Community Development payable at \$600,000 each year for three years. on March 4th, 1998 the release of the first year money became available. The plan for this year will be:

1. Public Facilities- West Hill section of Town Hill Road.
2. Housing Rehabilitation- 7 units.
3. Removal of Architectural Barriers- Town Hall compliance to American Disability Act Standard.

The Highway Garage was damaged by one of the town trucks and has been repaired with insurance money in the amount of \$8,416.00.

Two sections of Chester Road have been rebuilt with Chapter 113 funds. The Board declared an emergency for dirt roads on January 8, 1998 after a steady rain for 6 days thawed much of the frost and created muddy conditions. Also the Selectmen have been pursuing a STRAP grant for rebuilding River Road. Shaun Kelly has been working on securing funds for this project. Meetings have been held with Mike Hale to widen a section of Chipman Road. This project should go forward this spring.

Tri County Contractors bid of \$6,200.00 for a new sander for the Ford truck was accepted in October.

Deleury & Sons in New York bid was accepted for a used 4x4 truck to be delivered in November and was used for the first storm on the day of delivery, November 14, when we had 4" sleet, snow, and freezing rain.

A new pump and casing were brought above ground at the well for the Town Hall.

The septic system was installed at the Fire Station in August.

The Board appointed David Krassler as Dog Officer in August.

Many thanks go to Representative Shaun Kelly and Mr. Ross Dindio of District #1 State Highway Department in Lenox for their assistance on Skyline Trail repavement from Peru line South to Chester Road, called a "band aid" until the state will re-build Skyline Trail.

Glendale Bridge is under construction. Work will start up again this spring and be finished this year. The Board has applied for a grant to replace Cone Road Bridge with a box culvert. Many thanks to Mr. William Allen, P.E. for his expert help and advice on the project.

Also, we will replace the oil tank at Town Hall with an expected 50% reimbursement.

We wish to extend the Board's sympathy to the families of Edward 'Ted' Cook, Roberta Ann Croxford, Alexis Hightower, Lois Lamb, H. Francis Pease, Marie Granger Pease for the loss of their loved ones. Their spirit will live on.

Board of Selectmen
Richard Progulske, Chairman
Ronald Radwicz
Larry Pease

OFFICERS and COMMITTEES for 1997

ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS Term Expires

Board of Selectmen

Richard Progulske, Chairman	1998
Ronald Radwich	1999
Larry Pease	2000

Board of Assessors

Gustel Progulske, Chairman	2000
Martin 'Archie' Main	1998
Kristin Monson	1999

Auditor

Martin 'Archie' Main	1998
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Constables

William Paschal	1998
Donald Savery	1998

Board of Health & Fence Viewers

Board of Selectmen, Chairman

Cemetery Commission

Nancy Burnham	2000
Neil G. Nickerson	1998
Larry Pease	1999

County Commissioner

Joseph Kearns	1999
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Finance Committee

Scott Artioli	1998
Archie Main	1998
William Allen	1999
Greg Carpenter	2000
Joseph Kearns	2000

Library Trustees

Susan Donnelly	2000
Priscilla Suriner	1998
Elizabeth Carpenter	1999

Moderator

Peter Oligny	1998
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Planning Board

Michael Hale	2000
Marcia Krassler	1998
Joanne Rennert-Boisvert	1999
Tamarin Paine	1999

School Committee

Curt Robie	1998
Paula Bouffard	1999

Tax Collector

Neil G. Nickerson	1998
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Treasurer

Nancy C. Pease	1998
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Tree Warden

Brian Miller	1998
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Town Clerk

Marjorie Batorski	1998
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Zoning Board of Appeals

Peter Oligny	2000
Maurice Pease	1998
Nancy Burnham	1999
Richard Griffin, Alternate	1999

APPOINTED TOWN OFFICIALS TermExp

Town Attorney

Kopelman & Paige	1998
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Animal Inspector - Domestic/Rabies

Donald Savery	1998
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Cultural Council

Kay Judge	1998
Priscilla Suriner	1998
Peter Oligny	1999
Andrea Tasi	1999
Beth Carpenter	2000
Ann Jewett	2000

OFFICERS and COMMITTEES for 1997

APPOINTED TOWN OFFICIALS *continued*

Building Inspector		Lumber Surveyor	
Walter Smith 1/2	1998	Brian Miller	1998
Paul Tacy 1/2	1998		
Civil Defense Warden		Wood/Bark Measurer	
Larry Pease	1998	Edward James	1998
Thomas Austin, Asst. Warden	1998		
Conservation Commission		Police Department	
Thomas Troie	1998	Thomas Austin, Police Chief	1998
Steve Cummings	2000	Curt Robie	1998
		Jimmy Jasmin, Special Officer	1998
		Michael Pensivey	1998
Council on Aging		Plumbing Inspector	
Joan Almori, Co-Chairman	1998	William Zeitler, Jr.	1998
Sue Fastiggi, Co-Chairman	1998		
Ellen Miller	Lydia Sanders	Recreation Committee	
Elizabeth Oligny	Pricilla Suriner	Board of Selectmen	
Lois Lamb	Gustel Progulske		
Richard Progulske		Recreation Sub-Committee	
		Judy Carrington, Chair	
Disposal Area		Registrar of Voters	
Martin Main	1998	Marjorie Batorski	1998
Dog Officer		Mary Jane Donnelly	1998
David Krassler	1998	Susan Fastiggi	1998
		Anita Myers	1998
Dutch Elm and Insect Pest Control		Smoke Alarm & Oil Burner Inspector	
Brian Miller	1998	Larry Pease	1998
Field Drivers		Street Superintendent	
Board of Selectmen		Matthew Drosehn	1998
Fire and Forest Warden		Westfield River Advisory	
Larry F. Pease, Fire Chief	1998	Carl Lafreniere	1998
Ronald Radwich, Deputy Fire Chief	1998		
Historical Commission		Wiring Inspector	
Lydia Sanders	1998	Eric Main	1998
Albert Sanders	1998		
Nancy Burnham	1999		
George Bell	2000		
Jack Cobb	2000		
Cindy Duby, Associate	1999		

ASSESSORS REPORT

During 1997 the Assessors visited 110 homes. To complete visits for the re-val year certification, we expect to visit 93 homes prior to July 1, 1998. We also have to review land schedule, chapter lands (61, 61A, 61B) and personal property records. We processed 13 abatements, 12 exemptions and numerous motor vehicle bills. We wish to thank all those whose property we have looked at for the courtesy extended to us.

Our current tax rate is calculated as follows:

Town meeting appropriations	\$752,351.00
Total Cherry Sheet Offset	1,396.00
State & County charges	6,431.00
Overlay Reserve	<u>5,050.41</u>
Amount to be Raised	\$765,228.41

Receipts from State	\$74,431.00
Estimated Local Receipts	53,030.00
Other Available Funds	<u>104,002.00</u>
Total Receipts	\$231,463.00

Net Amount to be Raised \$533,765.41

Tax Rate: $\frac{\$533,765.41}{\$31,269,210.00} \times 1,000 = \17.07

Respectfully submitted,
Gustel Progulske, Chairperson
Martin Main
Kristin Monson

CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Capital Planning Committee was established by the Board of Selectmen in an attempt to develop a five-year plan to address the capital needs of the Town. The committee was appointed by the selectmen with the help of the town moderator, and began work in the fall of 1997.

The committee developed a series of forms to assess the present condition of town-owned buildings and equipment, and to list present and future equipment and improvement needs. Each department head was given a set of forms and was asked to inventory present equipment giving its age, condition, life expectancy and cost to repair if any. Each department head was also asked to develop a list of new equipment that he/she felt would be necessary over the next five years, and was asked to make recommendations on building improvements that were necessary.

The forms were collected by the committee. Each department head returned a detailed and comprehensive list of present equipment and future needs with justification for each need. The committee then met with the town finance committee to discuss the reports. The finance committee discussed the impact of projected costs with the committee and suggested possible

alternatives to lessen the cost to the taxpayers of the town.

The next step for the committee was to hold a hearing with each department head. The purpose of the hearing was to review the list in an attempt to determine if particular items could be funded in a different manner than presented in the individual reports. Each item was prioritized over a five-year period. This was done to allow for each department to hopefully realize its most needed equipment or repairs, while allowing for the future projected costs of needed expenditures.

The committee then met as a group to review it's findings and prepare the final report and warrant items for the May 1998 town meeting. A meeting was also held with a representative of the Massachusetts Department of Revenue, to discuss the legal ramifications of such a committee and to review legal matters related to proposed warrant items. A final meeting was held with the selectmen and the finance board to review the report.

In the town warrant you will find a number of items submitted by the capital planning committee. These items represent the capital needs of the town and should not be confused with the normal operating and maintenance budgets of each department. The needs of each department are listed in one warrant article for the sake of clarity and comparison so that the town may distinguish the capital needs of the town.

Some may ask why certain items appear in later years of this report. The reason is that some items may be able to be funded from grants or other revenue sources. The committee thought it best to delay action on particular items until all options are investigated. The committee is also recommending that each year a sum of money be raised and appropriated to go into the stabilization fund to be used to fund purchases of surplus equipment and repairs to buildings as opportunities become known. Expenditures for such purposes would require a two-thirds vote of those present at a special town meeting.

In closing, the present and future needs of the town continue to grow. This committee has identified and established a five-year plan to meet those needs, that is balanced and that addresses the needs of each department. Many requested items were deleted or changed from those first presented as those involved realized the magnitude of the problem. Each town resident must come to terms with the impact that capital and yearly expenses will have on the tax rate. The unfortunate reality is that the cost to run the town will continue to rise. Each year residents of the town ask for more services to assist them with their daily lives. The committee hopes that through it's work, residents may gain a better understanding of the needs of the town that will assist them in making decisions in the future.

Respectfully submitted,
Curt Robie Peter Oligny
Ann Jewett Eleanor Doyle

BUILDING INSPECTORS REPORT

ADDRESS	M/L	OWNER	PERMIT	FOR	COST	FEE	DATE
11 West Hill Rd	405/3	Henry Roberts	797	Renov	1,020	15.00	3-4
138 Skyline Tr	407/13	Ann Baruzzi	1197	Reroof	7,300	29.20	3/10
34 Chester Rd	406/49	Gary Wheeler	1797	Barn	32,700	63.36	3/27
151 Arthur Pease Rd	406/32	David Sage	2297	Addition	7,500	101.00	4/12
88 Town Hill Rd	406/111	Donald Savery	3397	Reroof	500	15.00	5/19
150 Skyline Tr	407/16	Larry Jones	3497	Renov/Deck	4,000	16.00	5/19
90 West Hill Rd	403/16	Michael Brighetti	3897	Reroof	2,000	15.00	5/22
217 Skyline Tr	406/8019	William Myers	3997	Porch	4,000	15.00	6/1
26 Root Rd	407/6402	Sean Foley	4097	Addit	15,000	19.24	6/1
120 E. River Rd	410/36	Stephen Sporbert	4397	Deck	1,500	22.08	6/9
143 Chipman Rd	411/70	Michael Butchen	4497	Deck	2,500	15.00	6/12
206 Town Hill Rd	405/19	Steven Black	5297	Chimney	500	15.00	6/19
30 E. River Rd	409/2	David Croke	5697	Renov	16,000	64.00	6/26
148 Skyline Tr	407/15	Gregory Carpenter	6897	Renov	13,000	15.00	8/5
17 Johnnycake Hill Rd	405/36	Stephen Harris	6997	Shed	4,000	15.00	8/5
1 Alderman Rd	405/5003	Jay Swift	7397	House	150,000	460.68	8/5
71 West Hill Rd	406/126	Doug Robare	7897	Addit	23,000	141.60	8/18
152 Chipman Rd	411/4	Gus Neumann	7997	Deck	500	15.00	8/18
99 Arthur Pease Rd	407/34	Scott Artioli	9597	Barn	8,000	108.00	9/18
95 West Hill Rd	403/4	Michael Brooking	10697	House	73,000	338.45	10/21
48 Chester Rd	405/6501	Tamarin Paine	11397	Addition	150,000	774.75	10/31
44 Harry Pease Rd	406/71	Brewster Pease	11897	ReRoof/Rep	20,000	100.00	10/31
148 Skyline	407/15	Greg Car Penter	12697	Porch	5,000	25.00	11/10
183 Skyline Tr	406/8902	Warren Ritter	13097	Renov	9,000	45.00	12/11

Misc. Fees Received:

2/28 From: Peter Goddu \$15.00
 For: Replacement permit card

BUILDING INSPECTORS REPORT
 PREPARED BY PAUL TACY, BUILDING COMMISSIONER
 HAMPSHIRE INSPECTION PROGRAM
 99 MAIN STREET, ROOM 232, NORTHAMPTON, MA 01060 (413) 628-3836

CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS

*Death is a tall tower in
Which the soul ascends
To spend a meditative hour
That never ends* Langston Hughes

In addition to weekly mowing, brush clearing and general upkeep of our five cemeteries during 1997, ongoing improvements to the roadways at Pine Grove Cemetery were undertaken and will continue in 1998. Thanks to a generous private contribution, heavy tangled brush along the west wall at Center Cemetery was cut and cleared. Our Five Cemetery Inventory Project also commenced.

As ever, winter snow, ice and frost heaves continue to be our worst vandals at our oldest cemeteries—Center, Mack and Bell. There, many old gravestones have fallen, many are cracked or broken. This is a sorry sight to behold, and a serious problem which must be addressed. Ways, means and money must somehow be raised to restore these monuments. Your Commissioners will be looking into solutions and any input from our citizens will be gratefully received and considered.

Our special thanks to Warren Ritter who again has taken superb care of the five cemeteries. His meticulous caretaking of these hallowed grounds has been done with the highest degree of professionalism.

Finally, our thanks to the members of Middlefield Grange for their annual volunteer placement of flags at our veteran's grave sites. Their community spirit is one which enriches us all.

Respectfully submitted by
Nancy Burnham, Chairman
Neil Nickerson
Larry Pease

COUNCIL ON AGING REPORT

The Council on Aging would like to thank the town and particularly Middlefield senior citizens for their continued support of this organization. Through your participation in our activities we have continued to expand as a positive social experience, an information resource, and a referral center. To cite some examples of our growth: 716 congregate meals were served in our senior center during the past year, over 1000 phone calls were made to provide information and support to seniors, approximately 20 referrals were made to other area agencies, and blood pressure clinics were offered twice a month.

Through our quarterly newsletter we are able to continue our informational and social services to all Middlefield seniors as well as friends who have moved away and those wintering elsewhere. As an outreach vehicle, our newsletter also reaches the seniors who do not actively participate in local activities. This newsletter is funded in part through a grant from the Massachusetts Elder Service.

As a result of a grant from the Middlefield Cultural Council, we are able to continue our weekly art class. This class particularly enjoys the brightness of the newly renovated senior center.

Transportation for medical reasons and shopping continues as in previous years, with an increase in the budget stipend from Franklin Regional Transit Authority because of the increased need and usage. Volunteers have driven 3,459 miles this year.

"Brown Bag" distribution to households in Middlefield by volunteers continues as before.

As a member of the Southern Hilltown Consortium, we have gained an increased knowledge of area services and organizations devoted to elders and have participated in workshops and instructional endeavors. Through the efforts of the Consortium, a health fair for all area seniors was offered in Huntington.

Future plans include the establishment of an exercise class specifically for the treatment and prevention of osteoporosis.

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the volunteers who make this organization a success. Due to their dedication and hard work we are able to continue our services to seniors without a great financial burden to the town -- for example, salaries alone would be well over twelve thousand dollars. This figure is derived from the actual hours worked by various members and the state approved recommended minimum salary for each position.

Again we THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!!!
Respectfully Submitted,
Joan M. Alnori, Co- Chair
Susan Fastiggi, Co- Chair

CULTURAL COUNCIL REPORT

Cultural Council members appointed by the Selectmen in 1997 met in October to elect officers and begin reviewing applications for new grants. From a total of 24 applications received, 16 were approved for funding:

* Chester Elementary School, grade 1 to attend *Winnie the Pooh* performance at Springfield Symphony Hall.

* Chester Elementary School, grade 2 to attend *Magic School Bus* performance at Springfield Symphony Hall.

* Chester Elementary School, grades K-4 and general community to participate in *Train Project* at Chester Town Depot.

* Gateway Middle School Band, grades 5-8, for special tutorials in instrumental music.

* Gateway Middle School to attend *The Phantom Tollbooth* performance by Commonwealth Opera in Northampton.

* Gateway High School Music Dept., for visiting teacher/performers.

* Middlefield Basketball Court Committee for concert by John Porcino.

* Middlefield Basketball Court Committee for *Where the Animals Danced* performance by Bob Thomas.

* Middlefield COA for concert by John Root.

* Miniature theatre of Chester for 1998 season.

* Sevenars Concerts for 1998 season in Worthington.

* Becket Arts Center for summer visual arts program.

* Karen Glicknan for *Deaf Awareness and You* presentation co-sponsored by Middlefield Grange and Library.

* Highland Agricultural Society for juggling performance and workshop.

* Middlefield Grange for New England folk concert by Yankee Notions.

* Middlefield Cultural Council for blues concert by Charlie Blues Band.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Jewett, Chairman

Kay Judge, Secretary

Peter Oligny, Treasurer

Beth Carpenter Anrea Tosi

Priscilla Suriner Laura Lafrenier, ex-officio

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Our department would like to say thanks to all that have given continued support. We appreciate hearing kind thoughts and it makes us feel good. Any volunteer in an capacity deserves to be recognized and appreciated. For those volunteers here in Middlefield, our department thanks you as well.

Our department had an average year of calls. Some more stressful than others, each call is different and, with that, we see something new as a learning tool. There are times that seem like a routine call that turn a new angle creating a new response. Proper training and procedures are valuable and with that knowledge, a bit of common sense can go a long way. To those of you that have passed along some knowledgeable ideas to us, we thank you. Many hands make light work. Our calls this year are as follows:

6	Medical
1	Smoke alarm activation
1	Mutual aid assist- car accident
1	Medical- natural death
1	Possible mutual aid standby
2	Brush fires
1	Mutual aid brush fire
1	Standby at station- possible tornado
4	Possible structure fires
1	Car accident
2	Chimney fires

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Pease, Chief

Ronald Radwich, Deputy Chief

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COMMISSION

This has been and still is a year of redefining for Hampshire County. The Commissioners are putting a question on the ballot next November that proposes a comprehensive amendment to our current Charter. When that question is passed by the voters, Hampshire will have a somewhat different look. The Commonwealth will run and fund the jail and house of correction. The Commonwealth will run and receive the revenues from the Registry of Deeds. The Commonwealth will own the new courthouse rather than being a tenant to us. Security and Maintenance staff will become state employees. We are fighting to retain ownership of the Historic Courthouse. That was built with funds raised in Hampshire County. No state monies were used. It is debt free. The restructuring of Hampshire will affirm what we feel we do well.

Our cooperative purchasing program; our surplus equipment program; our health insurance trust; our building inspector program; our facility in Leeds, Hampshire Care; and our two parking lots would remain under the ownership of the restructured entity. The Fire Defense program, the Local Emergency Planning Committee, the Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative, and the road hearings would all remain under the auspices of Hampshire.

We proudly tell you that Hampshire Care has received in each of the past two years a 100% no deficiency in patient care report. This does seem an awkward way for the Federal and state governments to announce that this facility and its employees did everything perfectly.

Still looking to the future, we are planning to provide aggregation of electricity. While other groups are courting town's buildings and some large businesses, we felt the answer here in our area would once again be cooperative purchasing. You will be asked at your town meetings to vote to join together to purchase electricity as a group, individuals, town facilities, and businesses. We feel with this broad a group we should be able to get very competitive prices on electricity.

We are delighted that funding was appropriated to build a county lockup facility near the jail and house of correction. That lock up is for use by any of our 20 communities for pre-arraignment lockup. It has taken many years- of talking, meetings, inviting community police officials to work together, seeking support from our legislative delegation- to reach this point. A committee has been named to oversee the process as we ready for construction. There are representatives from local public safety agencies, from the Sheriff's department and from the County Commissioners office. To all individuals who have worked so diligently on this, Thank You!

Our building inspector program, under the auspices of the Regional Service Department, is growing. For those towns that have their own certified inspec-

tors, it is possible to use our Certified Inspector when there is a conflict of interest for the local inspector or when the local inspector has to be away from his/her duties. Five towns now belong full time to the program.

Regional Services is also acquiring government surplus equipment for our communities. All the items delivered to various town programs, after transport fees are paid to the county have saved \$158,000 off their net worth. *Middlefield has received an International Dump Truck for \$1,600 under this program this past year.*

The director of the department has written and received for the county grant monies for the Local Emergency Planning Committee planning response for hazardous materials spills. Hampshire has the only Countywide program in the Commonwealth. Two interns, students, were hired. They updated each towns emergency plans to make sure information was accurate and current. These will be the backbone of the regional effort.

Cooperative Purchasing continues strong. The schools, town offices, Highway, Police, and Fire all purchase items through this department. The director of cooperative purchasing has expanded the reach of our program. Entities from across the commonwealth, for a fee greater than the local fee, are becoming a regular part of the school furniture, and the library bids.

We were delighted to have received grant monies to make the courthouse more handicapped accessible. In the Historic Courthouse we have a brand new rest room with woodwork to match the old construction. This rest room is accessible to the public through the entrance under the stairs at the corner of King and Main Street.

As Commissioners we owe a debt of gratitude to our staff, Penny Geis, Administrator; Lydia King, Administrative Asst.; Anne Moran, Director of Purchasing; Geoff Rogers, Director of Regional Services; John Lillis, Acting Treasurer and Director of the Insurance Trust program, and Dan McCarthy, Director of Buildings and Grounds. Jan Wood, Director of Human Services retired at the end of 1997. We value her contributions in the past and are saddened that we didn't have the funds to grant agencies in need. We are fortunate that Jan will, for a while, serve as consultant to us on a very part time basis. To all employees of the county, we appreciate the way you help our communities.

As a Commission, we are continuing to work with Administration and Finance and with our legislative delegation to insure the future of regional cooperation among our communities.

Joseph J. Kearns

County Commissioner for Middlefield

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

The highway department has been very busy this past year, as some of you may have noticed. A few major projects were completed, including the reconstruction of Chester Rd., from Arthur Pease Rd. to the Chester town line. Skyline Trail was blacktopped from the Peru town line to Town Hall and a few various spots from there to the Chester town line. A portion of Arthur Pease Rd. and Reservoir Rd. were chipsealed.

The gravel roads were graded and gravel added where needed. The limited amount of money kept this amount of gravel to a minimum. The Bancroft section of Town Hill Rd. had the final course of blacktop applied which now completes this job.

The equipment is still holding together with a hope, a prayer, and a lot of TLC. The loader had a full service performed on it. At that time faulty cylinder packings were found and repaired at a cost of more than \$800. If this problem had not be found, this cost very easily could have escalated to over \$3,000. This is what preventative maintenance is all about. The Ford truck has seen some major repairs but this vehicle still needs more attention.

We are continuing to participate in the state Surplus Property Program through Hampshire County Regional Services. This program allows us to purchase tools, equipment, and vehicles at very reasonable rates.

Our grader is very old and tired and in need of some extensive repairs, but because of limited funds, we have to operate it as is. The new 4x4 truck that has been purchased is in service and working.

In closing I would like to thank all of you for your continued support and ask that if you have any concerns or complaints, please feel free to contact me at the highway garage Thanks.

Matthew Drosehn

Highway Superintendent

HILLTOWN RESOURCE MGT. COOPERATIVE

The Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative is a unique regional municipal organization created, operated and funded by its eleven member towns of Ashfield, Chesterfield, Cummington, Hatfield, Huntington, Middlefield, Plainfield, Westhampton, Williamsburg & Worthington. The HRMC's main goal is to continue to develop a first quality integrated recycling and waste management program for the region. This year, for the fourth year in a row the HRMC will be level funded. This year, the HRMC will continue to plan and organize the following programs for the region.

- 1) Monitor area recycling and waste management programs to make sure we are all recycling as much as we can!
- 2) Plan and operate the regional Hazardous Waste Collection Program in the months of September and October.
- 3) Plan and operate the regional Paint Recycling Collec-

tion in the months of September and October.

4) Coordinate the regional sales of compost bins throughout the year.

5) Provide recycling set out bins to all area schools and residents on an as needed basis throughout the year.

6) Provide outreach and education workshops and programs to HRMC area schools on an as needed by request basis.

7) Provide outreach and education workshops and programs to all HRMC communities on an as needed basis.

8) Work with local officials to improve day to day operations, signage and general information available at your town's transfer station.

9) Work with local Boards and officials on new DEP grant programs as they arise, as well as advocate on behalf of the eleven member towns to state officials on state wide solid waste and recycling policies.

10) Create new programs to serve the town needs as they arise.

Feel free to contact the HRMC anytime at (413) 268-3845 if you have any questions about these valuable programs.

Respectfully submitted,
Eric Weiss
Administrator, HRMC

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Throughout the year members continued to record new additions to the Museum collection. Many objects in need of repair and restoration were completed and put on display. The Museum was open during Middlefield Fair weekend and again for Applefest held at the church in September.

The Commission will continue with work on the inventory as well as setting up a filing and labelling of the collection now on display.

Special thanks go out to Lydia and Al Sanders who served on the commission tirelessly making the Museum become a reality. Their special talents will be greatly missed by the Commission.

Respectfully,
Jack D. Cobb, Chairman
George Bell Cindy DUBY
Nancy Burnham Roy A. Haapala

LEE V.N.A. REPORT

The following services were performed here by the Lee Visiting Nurse Association during 1997:

<u>Home Visits</u>	<u># Visits</u>	
Skilled nursing	115	
Physical therapy	4	
Maternal/child health	2	
Home Health Aide	407.5	visits/319 hrs.
Personal Care Attendant	32	visits/ 32 hrs.

<u>Clinics</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
1 Flu/pneumonia session	15/2

RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT

During the past year, the Recreation Committee has sponsored its usual annual events. The Easter bunny stopped by to hide eggs for all to gather. There were also various prizes awarded in 3 age categories as well as the Silver Grand Prize Egg.

Use of the Committee's big screen T.V. added to the festivities at the annual Block Party come summertime. Funds raised went toward the basketball court currently under construction.

Following this year's town trick or treating, a Halloween Parade ended at a party at Town Hall. There were tricks and treats for all and a smorgasbord of ghouly things!

Come December, the Christmas carolling hayride was again a success thanks to the Barber's expertise and team of horses.

The above events were sponsored through donations collected at Middlefield Country Store, with the exception of payment for the team of horses.

Plans for the upcoming year include upgrading and maintenance of the playground. Additional pea stone and enclosure is needed, as well as a fresh oiling of the play structure.

We welcome your suggestions and ideas for current or new events. Please contact myself or any of the Selectmen if you are interested in becoming a Committee member. Your help is needed!

Judy Carrington, Chairman

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

<u>DOG LICENSE REPORT</u>		<u>gross</u>	<u>fees</u>	<u>net</u>
Male	40 @ \$3	\$120.	\$30.00	\$90.00
Female	6 @ \$6	36.	4.50	31.50
Spayfemale	64 @ \$3	192.	48.00	144.00
Kennel, 4/-	6 @ \$10	60.	4.50	55.50
Kennel, 4-10, 1	@ \$25	25.	.75	24.25
Kennel, 10+, 1	@ \$50	<u>50.</u>	<u>.75</u>	<u>49.25</u>
TOTALS	118 licenses \$483	\$88.50	\$394.50	

FISHING/SPORTING LICENSE REPORT

<u>License Class Issued</u>	<u>Fee/Town</u>	<u>Fee Tot</u>	<u>Gross</u>	<u>Fees</u>	<u>Net</u>
F1 RESIDENT FISHING	\$22.50/.50	13	292.50	6.50	286.00
F2 RES. FISHG MINOR	6.50/.50	1	6.50	.50	6.00
F3 RES. FISHING 65-6	11.25/.50	1	11.25	.50	10.75
HI RES. CITZN HUNTG	22.50/.50	10	225.00	5.00	220.00
H5 NON-RES.HTG-big game	94.50/.50	7	661.50	3.50	658.00
H8 RES. MINOR HUNTG	6.50/.50	1	6.50	.50	6.00
SI RESIDENT SPORTIG	40.00/.50	10	400.00	5.00	395.00
S3 RES. SPORTING, 70+	0.00/NONE	3	0.0	0.0	0.00
DS DUP. SPORTG	2.00/NONE	1	2.00	0.0	2.00
MI ARCHERY STAMP	5.10/.10	7	35.70	.70	35.00
M3 P.FIREARM STAMP	5.10/.10	4	20.40	.40	20.00
W1 WLD.CONS.STAMP	5.00/NONE	<u>34</u>	<u>170.00</u>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>170.00</u>
TOTALS		93	\$22.60	\$1808.75	

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT cont'd

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

Michael Anthony Turner, February 15, 1997, son of Kenneth Russell Turner & Shea Elizabeth Turner (Bergland)

Joseph Yvon Turcotte, Jr., August 11, 1997, son of Joseph Yvon Turcotte, Sr. & Michelle Lee Provencher

Brennan Francis Foley, August 31, 1997, son of Sean Francis Foley & Sarah M. Foley (Batorski)

MARRIAGES

Douglas F. F. Robare and Janina F. O'Connor, September 20, 1997

DEATHS

H. Francis Pease, March 19, 1997, 91 yrs., (Former Town Official) in Tavares, Florida

Marie Granger Pease, April 12, 1997, 82 yrs., Harry Pease Road

Edward Martin 'Ted' Cook, April 11, 1997, 45 yrs. (Former Town Official), in Peru, Ma.

Roberta Ann Croxford, April 17, 1997, 52 yrs., Skyline Trail

Alexis Hightower, December 15, 1997, 4 yrs., Chipman Road

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

JUNE 23, 1997

The meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Peter Oigny. There were 35 people present.

ARTICLE 1 It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer \$1700.00 to the Social Security Account from the Insurance Expense Account. It was an unanimous vote and the Article passed.

ARTICLE 2 It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer \$2300.00 to Maintenance of Public Buildings Account from the Insurance Expense Account. It was an unanimous vote and the Article passed.

ARTICLE 3 It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to carry over to FY 1998 the remainder appropriated in 1997 for the Compactor Box instead of a recycling box (\$4,796.00 left over). It was moved and seconded to table action on Article 3 until figures were more firm. The money will go back into the General Fund. It was an unanimous voice vote and the Article

was tabled.

ARTICLE 4 It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$100.00 to the Assessors Expense Account from the Fire Department Expense Account. It was an unanimous vote and the Article passed.

ARTICLE 5 It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer \$400.00 from the Assessors Assistant Expense Account to the Assessors Expense Account. It was an unanimous vote and the Article passed.

ARTICLE 6 It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$14,000.00 to Town Snow Account from the Stabilization Account. It was an unanimous vote and the Article passed.

ARTICLE 7 It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer a sum not to exceed \$16,000.00 from the Stabilization Account to purchase two new sanders or take any other action relating thereto. A motion was made and seconded after discussion to amend the Article from \$16,000.00 to \$13,000. As there was no more discussion, the Article passed as amended. The Article passed.

ARTICLE 8 it was moved and seconded that the Article be accepted s read. Article read "to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to use \$42,000.00 from Chapter 113 funds for repairs to the 1972 Mack truck or take any other action relating thereto. This Article generated a lot of back and forth dialogue; "what would be the value after repairs?" Ans: %5,000.00. "Cost to repair 1986 Ford?" Ans: Not recommended. The feeling of the Selectboard was save the Ford, get the sanders and fix the Mack. After much more discussion the Article was defeated.

ARTICLE 9 It was moved and seconded to authorize the Selectmen to use \$14,000.00 from Chapter 113 funds for repairs to the 1986 Ford truck or take any other action relating thereto. The Article was amended from \$14,000.00 to \$4,200.00. The Chapter 113 Amendment was defeated. A second amendment for a new truck with dump body was made and seconded. There was a hand count for this: 13 for and 22 opposed. The second Amended Article was defeated. Article 9 was called and Article 9 passed.

ARTICLE 10 It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to authorize the Selectmen to use \$50,000.00 from Chapter 113 funds to purchase a 4-wheel drive dump truck with snow equipment or take any other action thereto. A motion was made and seconded to amend the Article to read "minus the snow equipment." A motion was made and seconded to vote on the Article as amended. It was an unanimous vote and the amended article passed.

ARTICLE 11 It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer \$600.00 to the Dutch Elm Disease Account from the Interest on Short Term Loans Account or take any other action related thereto. A motion

was made and seconded to amend the Article to read to transfer \$600.00 to the Tree Warden Account. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Article as amended. It was an unanimous vote.

ARTICLE 12 Under this Article questions were asked about the State taking over County Government. What can we do to prevent this? Joe Kearns, our County Commissioner said that this is still in limbo. Perhaps by fall time, there will be some answers.

River Road STRAP grant hopefully. The Road crew are working on repair to the potholes.

Capital Planning Committee: A motion was made and seconded that there be a five member ad hoc committee set up. The Moderator will appoint the committee. It is to help plan expenditures over a ten year time span. The committee is to report results at the next Town Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.
Marjorie Batorski,
Town Clerk

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING OCTOBER 20, 1997

The Special Town Meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Peter Oligny at 8:00 p.m. There were 74 people present.

ARTICLE 1 A motion was made and seconded that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$19,036 for Middlefield's share of the over-minimum contribution to the budget for the Gateway Regional School District for the period of July 1, 1997 through June 30, 1998, or take any other action thereto, or accept as an over-minimum contribution a sum which is less than \$19,036.00. Curt Robie, School Committee member explained that this was a formality as we had to do this. There was a voice vote and this Article passed. It was an unanimous vote.

ARTICLE 2 Article 2 was read and a motion was made and seconded that the Article be accepted as read. The Article is as follows: "That the Town will vote to approve that amount of \$85,000.00 debt authorized on August 27, 1997, by the Gateway Regional School District Committee for financing part costs of 1) constructing and equipping a new elementary school to serve four towns and 2) reconstructing, adding to, and equipping the Russell Elementary School, and 3) reconstructing, adding to and equipping the Gateway High School and Middle Schools, including planning and other costs incidental and related thereto."

Peter Oligny, Moderator, told the assembly that each person could ask one question, then wait if they had another one, until all the people had a chance to ask one question.

Curt Robie, School Committee Member, gave a

brief description of the Planning Committee plan.

A great deal of discussion was generated by this Article. It was noted that it would take approximately 6 million dollars to bring Chester Elementary School up to present state standards. There would have to be an elevator for the handicapped and the oil tank would have to be taken out by 12-22-1998.

Under the plan being considered, Chester Elementary and Blandford Elementary Schools would be closed. Additions and improvements would be made to the Murrayfield School in Huntington and Russell Conwell in Worthington. Also the Russell Elementary School in Russell.

A new elementary School would be built in Huntington to send PreK- Grade 5 students from Chester, Huntington, Worthington and Middlefield. Russell Elementary would serve PreK-Grade 5 students from Russell, Blandford, and Montgomery. The land for the new school would be donated. (15 acres).

A question was asked when a new school would be opened. Answer was in 2-3 years.

Another question asked was what it would take for a town to leave the School district and build their own school? Reply was that it would take a vote by all 7 member towns to have this happen.

After more discussion, a motion was made and seconded to move the question. It was an unanimous vote. A paper ballot had early on been requested. The Town Clerk passed the Yes-No paper ballots and checked to see all who voted were registered voters.

After the tally, 38 people voted YES and 39 people voted NO. A recount was asked for and the result was the same. Article 2 was defeated.

ARTICLE 3 Being no other business to come legally before this meeting, it was moved and seconded that the meeting be dissolved. It was an unanimous vote, and Article 3 passed. The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Marjorie Batorski
Town Clerk

REPORTS NOT SUBMITTED

The following departments, committees, & offices did not submit annual reports: Animal Inspector, Auditor, Conservation Commission, Constables, Dog Officer, Finance Committee, Library, Moderator, Planning Board, Police Department, Plumbing Inspector, Registrar of Voters, School Committee (School District prepares report), Tree Warden/Dutch Elm & Insect Control/Lumber Surveyor, Wood Measurer, Transfer Station, Zoning Board of Appeals, Westfield River Advisory, Wiring Inspector.

Tax Collectors Report for Fiscal Year 1997

Year	Tax	Bal.	Warrants	Refunds	Total	Taxes Col.	Abated Tax	Title	Adj. +	Adj. -	Balance.
1997	R.E.		\$ 474,230.64	\$ 1,683.40	\$ 475,914.04	\$ 396,160.48	\$ 3750.62	\$ 383.99	\$ 460.93		\$ 75,156.02
1997	P.P.		21,679.74		21,679.74	20,671.97				24.61	1,032.38
1997	MVE.		26,184.72	27.50	26,212.22	17,249.40	601.25		260.14		8,101.43
			522,095.10	1,710.90	\$ 523,806.00	434,081.85	4353.87	383.99	721.07	24.61	84,289.83
1996	R.E.	\$ 62,119.00	701.02	1,121.43	63,941.45	25,534.65			701.02		37,705.78
1996	W.P.	854.56			854.56	854.56					-0-
1996	P.P.	1,079.46			1,079.46	16.32					1,063.14
1996	MVE.	10,103.91		78.13	10,182.04	4,885.26	277.79			29.56	5,048.55
		74,156.93	701.02	1,199.56	76,057.51	31,290.79	277.79		701.02	29.56	43,817.47
1995	R.E.	26,157.86		15.67	26,173.53	5,084.50					21,089.03
1995	P.P.	274.72		10.78	285.50	95.66					189.84
1995	MVE.	2,667.33		8.13	2,675.46	891.49	8.13				1,775.84
		29,099.91		34.58	29,134.49	6,071.65	8.13				23,054.71
1994	R.E.	14,028.53			14,028.53	3,378.83					10,649.70
1994	P.P.	38.56			38.56	-0-					38.56
1994	MVE.	1,425.94			1,425.94	217.60					1,208.34
		15,493.03			15,493.03	3,596.43					11,896.60
1993	R.E.	7,838.01			7,838.01	2,613.52					5,224.49
1993	P.P.	137.59			137.59	20.40					117.19
1993	MVE.	1,467.29			1,467.29	49.90					1,417.39
		9,442.89			9,442.89	2,683.82					6,759.07
1992	R.E.	3,316.23			3,316.23	220.65					3,095.58
1992	P.P.	84.44			84.44	36.53					47.91
1992	MVE.	610.11			610.11	5.00					605.11
		4,010.78			4,010.78	262.18					3,748.60
1991	R.E.	2,630.54			2,630.54	-0-					2,630.54
1991	P.P.	21.81			21.81	-0-					21.81
1991	MVE.	319.55			319.55	-0-					319.55
		2,971.90			2,971.90	-0-					2,971.90
1990	R.E.	15.70			15.70	-0-					15.70
1990	MVE.	573.84			573.84	-0-					573.84
		589.54			589.54	-0-					589.54

Year	Tax	Bal.	Warrants	Refunds	Total	Taxes Col.	Abated Tax Title	Adj. +	Adj. -	Balance.	
1989	R.E.	48.30			48.30	-0-				48.30	
1989	P.P.	5.00			5.00	5.00				-0-	
1989	MVE.	573.84			573.84	5.00				568.84	
		627.14			627.14	10.00				617.14	
1988	R.E.	43.31			43.31	-0-				43.31	
1988	MVE	248.49			248.49	-0-				248.49	
		291.80			291.80	-0-				291.80	
		\$136,683.92	\$522,796.12	\$2,945.04	\$662,425.08	\$477,996.72	\$4639.79	\$383.99	\$1422.09	\$54.17	\$178,036.66

Taxes Col. \$477,996.72
 Int. 2,096.32
 Fees For Reg. 140.00
 Tax Titles Col 34,848.98
 Int. 25,083.86
 Miso. 138.60
 Legal Fees Paid 1,466.00

Respectfully Submitted
 Neil G. Nickerson
 Tax Collector

TREASURER'S REPORT		Town of Middlefield		June 30, 1996 to July 1, 1997			Balance	Balance
Accounts		Appropriation	Transfer	Amt. Available	Reserve	Expenditures	Closed Out	Brought Forwd
Chapter 85-	Roadwork			\$93,560.19		\$93,560.19		
	Broom			4800.00		4,800.00		(\$295.04)
	Repair of 86 Ford			14000.00		14,000.00		14,000.00
	Purchase Dump Truck			50000.00		50,000.00		50,000.00
	Bridge			600.00		600.00		
Chapter 113a				126799.00		126,799.00		29177.12
Chapter 204				21133.00		21,133.00		21133.00
Highway Maintenance		\$39,000.00		39,000.00	174.49	39174.49		
Snow Removal		40,000.00	(1)	14,000.00		54,000.00	\$68.38	
Unpaved Roads		12,500.00		12,500.00		12,366.18	133.82	
Machinery Expense		16,000.00	(2)	2,902.00				
				600.00		19,502.00	183.94	19,685.94
Holidays/vacations		3,000.00		3,000.00		2,984.00	16.00	
Health Insurance		5,000.00		5,000.00		3,980.37	1,019.63	
Unemployment Compensation		500.00	(3)	2,000.00	330.00	2,830.00		
Salaries- Elected Town Officers		11,285.00		11,285.00		11,285.00		
	Dog Officer	400.00		400.00		166.66	233.34	
	Building Inspector	720.00		720.00		720.00		
	Electrical Inspector	300.00		300.00		300.00		
19	Electrical Assistant	100.00		100.00		100.00		
	Plumbing Inspector	300.00		300.00		300.00		
	Oil Burner Inspector	100.00		100.00		100.00		
	Smoke Detect Inspectr	100.00		100.00		100.00		
	Brd. Health/Inspect Agent	300.00		300.00		300.00		
	Fire Chief/Forest Warden	425.00		425.00		425.00		
	Selectmen's Secretary	3,000.00		3,000.00		3,000.00		
	Police Chief	400.00		400.00		400.00		
	Tree Warden	100.00		100.00		100.00		
Ambulance-	Hinsdale	1,200.00		1,200.00		1,200.00		
	Huntington	216.00		216.00		216.00		
Arts Lottery/Cultural Council Expense 96 Bal.			(4)	456.62				
				3,150.00				
				3,598.10		7,204.72		2,609.92
Assessors Assistant		5,000.00	(5)	(400.00)		4,600.00	201.37	4,594.80
Assessors Expense		2,200.00	(5)	400.00				
			(6)	100.00		2,700.00	1.41	
Assessors Registry Fees		150.00		150.00		35.00	115.00	
Assessors Tax Map Update		600.00		600.00				600.00

TREASURER'S REPORT

Page 2

June 30, 1996 to July 1, 1997

Accounts	Appropriation	Transfer
Cemetary Expense	3,000.00	(7) 603.00
Civil Defense	10.00	
Conservation/Wetlands Commission		(8) 394.70
Council on Aging	1,000.00	(9) 4,017.18
		700.00
		1,500.00
		53.00
Disposal Area/Transfer Station	18,000.00	
Compactor	30,000.00	
Engineering		(10) 1,000.00
Dog Officer's Expenses	100.00	
Dog Kennel Balance 1996	272.00	
Election and Registration	500.00	(11) 216.00
Fire Department Expense	4,500.00	(6) (100.00)
Fire Dept Dispatch Services	2,500.00	
Firehouse Note	1,750.00	
Interest	438.00	
Gateway Regional School	312,187.00	(12) (2,902.00)
Hampshire County Retirement	5,823.00	
Hampshire County Tax	1,504.00	
Health and Sanitation	10.00	(13) 20.00
Hilltown Resource Mgt Coop	1,373.00	
Historical Commission Expense		(13) 194.59
		1,762.25
		3.82
Middlefield Museum	500.00	
Insurance	25,000.00	(14) (9,000.00)
Interest Short Term Notes	6,000.00	(15) (600.00)
Library	1,000.00	(16) 4,767.88
		1,394.87
		264.92
Lee Visiting Nurses	1,000.00	
Maintenance Public Buildings	22,000.00	(14) 2,300.00
Office Supplies Expense	2,500.00	
Pioneer Valley Plang Comm	60.00	
Planning Board	10.00	(17) 40.00
Planning Board- rewrite bylaws		5,640.00
Police Dept - Vests		(33) 476.00

Available	Reserve	Expenditures	Closed Out	Brought Forwd
3,603.00		3,603.00		
10.00			10.00	
394.70		24.88		369.82
7,270.18		2,876.02		4,394.16
18,000.00		16,588.52		1,411.48
30,000.00		25,124.24		4,875.76
1,000.00				1,000.00
100.00		12.00	88.00	
272.00				272.00
716.00	135.25	851.25		
4,400.00		4,393.79	6.21	
2,500.00		2,325.00	175.00	
1,750.00		1,750.00		
438.00		437.50	0.50	
309,285.00		309,285.00		
5,823.00		5,823.00		
1,504.00	38.00	1,542.00		
30.00			30.00	
1,373.00		1,372.78	0.22	
1,960.66				1,960.66
500.00		218.38	281.62	
16,000.00		15,587.00	413.00	
5,400.00		3,846.63	1,553.37	
7,427.67		3,465.70		3,961.97
1,000.00		1,000.00		
24,300.00	1,170.71	25,391.91	78.80	
2,500.00		2,489.54		10.46
60.00		58.80	1.20	
50.00			10.00	40.00
5,640.00		5,640.00		
476.00		476.00		

Accounts		Appropriation	Transfer
Police Dept-	Insurance		(19) 586.75
	Grant		4,500.00
	Expense	3,800.00	
Printing		750.00	
Recreation			(19) 529.43
Recreation- Basketball Court			(26) 3,500.00
			650.12
			384.45
			3,329.11
			500.00
Selectmen's Travel/Expense		800.00	
Street Lights		500.00	
Tax Collector-	Expense	1,500.00	
	Attorney's Fees		(21) 3,771.35
	Computer	2,500.00	
Town Hall Custodian & Expense			(22) 1,002.37
Town Council		1,500.00	
Treasurer's Warrant			
Medicare (Employer's Share)		800.00	
Social Security (Employer's Share)		1,000.00	(14) 1,600.00
			1,700.00
Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust			
Community Health Plan			
Federal Income Tax			
Hampshire County Retirement			
Medicare (Employee's Share)			
Social Security (Employee's Share)			
State Income Tax			
Dog Licenses			
Division of Fisheries and Wildlife			
Police Department Outside Work			
Town Clerk			
Tree Accounts	Dutch Elm	150.00	(15) 600.00
			50.00
	Insect Pest Control	100.00	(15) (50.00)
Veterans Agent		10.00	
War Memorials and Playgrounds		1,200.00	(14) 800.00
Service Charges			

Available	Reserve	Expenditures	Closed Out Brought Forwd
586.75		586.75	
4,500.00		1,440.54	3,059.46
3,800.00	27.25	3,827.25	
750.00		629.39	120.61
529.43		155.28	374.15
8,363.68		7,359.18	1,004.50
800.00		735.44	64.56
500.00		419.75	80.25
1,500.00		1,116.26	383.74
3,771.35		1,002.10	2,769.25
2,500.00		2,331.99	168.01
1,002.37		1,000.00	2.37
1,500.00		885.58	614.42
800.00	301.76	1,101.76	
4,300.00		3,910.95	389.05
		360.36	
		2,370.83	
		7,268.00	
		1,901.99	
		1,101.76	
		3,916.95	
		3,575.03	
		227.40	
		1,610.15	
		1,187.50	
		167.20	
800.00		800.00	
50.00			50.00
10.00			10.00
2,000.00	68.79	2,068.79	
		722.50	

Accounts	Appropriation	Transfer	Available	Reserve	Expenditures	Closed Out	Brought Forwd
Bad Checks					1,431.67		
Notes Paid					11,488.81		
					<u>24,800.00</u>		
TOTALS	\$598,543.00	\$373,898.70	\$972,441.70	\$2,430.19	\$838,656.85	\$9,463.28	\$188,881.91

Footnotes

1. \$14,000.00 taken from Stabilization Fund.
2. \$2,902.00 transferred Gateway Regional, \$600.00 transferred from Insurance.
3. \$2,000 transferred from Insurance.
4. \$456.62 1996 Balance, \$3,150.00 STSTE grant and \$3,598.00 from closed bank account.
5. \$400.00 transferred to Assessors Expense Account.
6. \$100.00 transferred from Firemens Expense Account.
7. \$603.00 taken from Savings account for cemetery perpetual care.
8. \$394.70 1996 Balance.
9. \$4,017.18 1996 Balance, \$700.00 from Highland Valley Elders, \$1,500.00 from Office of Elder Affairs, \$53.00 Franklin County.
10. \$1,000.00 1996 Balance.
11. \$216.00 State Grant.
12. \$20.00 fee.
13. \$194.95 Balance, \$200.00 donation, \$1,562.25 Bank Account, \$3.82 interest.
14. Transferred \$2,000.00 to Unemployment Compensation, \$3,300.00 to Social Security, \$800.00 to War Memorials & Playgrounds, \$600.00 to Machinery Expense, \$2,300.00 to Maintenance of Public Buildings.
15. Transferred \$600.00 to Dutch Elm Disease, transferred \$50.00 from Insect Pest Control.
16. \$4,767.88 1996 Balance, \$1,394.87 State Grant, \$264.92 Dog Fund.
17. \$40.00 fee for lot division.
18. \$586.75 monies received from insurance company for damaged cruiser.
19. \$529.43 1996 Balance.
20. \$3,500 1996 Balance, \$650.12, \$384.45, \$329.11 various fund raising activities & \$500.00 donation.
21. \$3,771.00 1996 Balance.
22. \$1,002.37 1996 Balance.
23. \$476.00 grant.

CHAPTER 85

TOWN HIGHWAYS

	TOTAL SPENT	
Appropriation		\$39,000.00
From Reserve Fund		<u>\$174.77</u>
Total Available		<u>\$39,174.77</u>
Matt Drosehn, Supt	\$12,515.80	
Donald Savery, Eq. Op	\$5,609.68	
Lee Girard, Eq. Op.	\$3,632.50	
David Litchfield	\$363.75	
Robert Miller, Labor	\$652.50	
Warren Ritter, Labor	\$626.25	
David Krassler, labor	\$172.50	
Clyde Savery,	\$125.00	
Scott Darling, Mowing	\$2,626.00	
Brewster Pease, Drott	\$1,400.00	
J. White, bulldozer	\$250.00	
G. Carrington, Chipper	\$250.00	
Underground Sup., Culverts	\$790.11	
P.K.Steele,Excavator	\$210.00	
Lane Constr., Hot Mix	\$2,460.65	
All States Asphalt, cold patch	\$890.76	
McLaughlin, Tools	\$8.50	
Huntington Hdwe.	\$28.58	
Robrand Prod	\$72.61	
Bud's Chain Saw	\$82.00	
City Tire	\$1,255.50	
Country Oil	\$645.46	
Gateway Auto	\$189.59	
Charlies Garage	\$122.44	
L.P.Adams	\$139.12	
Lawson Prod.	\$124.54	
Hinsdale Mobile	\$128.30	
Raynors Bearings	\$54.67	
Atlantic Broom	\$443.00	
Tyler Equip	\$1,910.43	
Specialized Radio	\$987.67	
Genalco	\$406.86	
Total		\$39,174.77

TOWN SNOW

Approp.		\$40,000.00
Trans from Stabilization		\$14,000.00

Matthew Drosehn, Supt	\$12,230.76
Donald Savery, Eq. Op.	\$2,320.38
Lee Girard, Eq. Op.	\$5,557.50
David DiNicola, Eq. Op.	\$555.00
D. Sage, Labor	\$26.25
C. Hunter, Labor	\$198.75
D. Litchfield	\$180.00
Rodney Savery, Rep. Sander	\$724.24
Pitts. Sand & Gravel, Sand	\$14,282.33
Granite St. Min., Salt	\$13,059.01
Bay Oil, Sealer for salt shed	\$357.50
City Tire	\$840.00
Aquarius Water	\$480.00
Superior Spring	\$49.04
Atlantic	\$1,518.11
Huntington Hdwe	\$3.98
L.P. Adams	\$125.11
Gateway Auto	\$809.76
St. Pierre Mfg.	\$403.75
Howe Bros	\$210.15

Total		\$53,931.62
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CHAPTER 85

CHESTER RD.

Matthew Drosehn, Supt	\$2,058.64
Lee Girard, Eq. Op.	\$1,860.00
Donald Savery, Eq. Op.	\$381.50
Brewster Pease, Drott	\$3,325.00
D.A. DiNicola,	\$5,110.00
Atlantic Sign	\$491.46
N.E. Reclaim	\$1,100.00
D. Litchfield, labor	\$236.25
Raymond Bolduc	\$1,721.06
Underground Supply, culverts	\$4,521.20
Jones Tractor, gravel	\$2,019.60
All States Asphalt	\$11,548.00
Warren Ritter, Labor	\$438.75
Lane Construction	\$57,148.34
Machinery Earnings	\$1,719.00
Jesse Pelkey	\$262.50

Total		\$93,941.30
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CHAPTER 85

BROOM

Tyler Equip	\$526.98	
Gateway Auto	\$4,568.06	
Total		\$5,095.04

CHIP SEAL

Matt Drosehn, Supt	\$1,236.25	
Lee Girard, Eq Op	\$425.00	
Don Savery, Eq Op	\$630.38	
Warren Ritter, Labor	\$60.00	
Robert Miller	\$60.00	
D. Litchfield	\$187.50	
Lane Construction	\$918.11	
Machinery Earnings	\$1,487.00	
All States Asphalt	\$22,037.28	
Total		\$27,041.52

CHAPTER 204

Available		\$21,133.00
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Matt Drosehn, Supt.	\$639.13	
Donald Savery, Eq. Op.	\$609.85	
Robert Miller, Labor	\$446.25	
Pittsfield Sand & Gravel	\$14,588.25	
Brewster Pease, Drott	\$2,215.00	
Jones Tractor, stone & gravel	\$2,019.60	
Bolduc	\$278.94	
Machinery Earnings	\$336.00	
Total		\$21,133.02

CHAPTER 113

Matthew Drosehn, Supt	\$327.88	
Lee Girard, Eq. Op.	\$585.00	
Lane Construction	\$26,149.79	
Tatro Construction	\$500.00	
Donald Savery, Eq, Op.	\$395.00	
Machinery Earnings	\$90.00	
Donald Savery,	\$130.00	
Ray Bolduc	\$1,000.00	
Total		\$29,177.67

REPAIR FORD TRUCK (INS)

Insurance reimb.		\$5,000.00
Matthew Drosehn, Supt.	\$209.63	
Lee Girard, Eq. Op.	\$175.00	
Superior Spring	\$190.59	
Marcott Ford	\$53.84	
Daigles Steer-o-master	\$1,885.21	
Gateway Auto Parts	\$774.90	
D. D'Nicola	\$160.00	
L.P. Adams	\$36.31	
Raynors Bearings	\$184.73	
Freedman Steel	\$299.00	
Comm. of Mass.	\$100.00	
Timothy Pease	\$420.00	
Total		<u>\$4,489.21</u>
Bal to c/o to '98		\$510.79

MACHINERY EXPENSE

Approp.		\$16,000.00
Trans from Gateway		\$2,902.00
Trans from Ins.		\$600.00
Trans from Reserve		\$183.94
Total Available		<u>\$19,685.94</u>

Gateway Auto	\$522.37
Rapid Radiator	\$75.00
Southworth Milton	\$2,970.92
Tyler Equipment	\$689.29
Generalco	\$772.66
O'Connell Oil	\$206.10
SmithSled Shop	\$327.88
Lawson Products	\$520.14
RoBrand Products	\$305.33
Bolduc	\$500.00
Charlies Garage, gas	\$270.33
Hinsdale Garage	\$590.03
Hilltop Sharpening	\$5.00
Camerota	\$2,296.55
CRC	\$39.20
Bud's Chain Saw	\$231.00
Huntington Hardware	\$8.10
ERC Wiping Prod.	\$147.44
Pittsfield Welding	\$310.18
Freadman Steel	\$64.00
L.P. Adams	\$161.69
Springfield Mack	\$467.28
Ralph's	\$1,250.80
Preventive Maint	\$179.55

Rodney Savery	\$587.55	
Matthew Drosehn, Supt.	\$516.34	
Donald Savery, Eq. Op.	\$445.00	
Atlantic Parts	\$639.00	
Tech-Mass Dist.	\$83.47	
Country Oil	\$3,979.36	
Berkshire Eagle, Ad	\$131.95	
Superior Spring	\$631.76	
TOTAL		\$19,925.27

AMBULANCE

Appropriation		\$1,416.00
Huntington Lions Club	\$216.00	
Hinsdale Vol.Fire Dept	\$1,200.00	
Total		\$1,416.00
Bal.		<u>\$0.00</u>

ASSESSORS ASSISTANT

Appropriation		\$5,000.00
Trans to Assess.Expense		<u>(\$400.00)</u>
Available		\$4,600.00
Mary White	\$4,398.63	
Balance		<u>\$201.37</u>

ASSESSORS COMPUTER

Appropriation		\$1,500.00
Community Software	\$1,500.00	
Balance		\$0.00

ASSESSORS EXPENSE

Appropriation		\$2,200.00
Trans From Fire Dept		\$100.00
Trans from Assessors Asst.		<u>\$400.00</u>
Total Available		\$2,700.00

Richard Progulske	\$55.85	
Gustel Progulske	\$566.76	
B & H Computer	\$162.28	
Staples	\$415.53	
Whalley Computer	\$150.00	
McFarland Prod	\$1,071.25	
Mary White, Mileage	\$17.73	27

A.M. Sulkin	\$15.00	
Hamp Reg. of Deeds	\$12.50	
Advanced Business Sys.	\$231.69	
Total		<u>\$2,698.59</u>
Bal.		\$1.41

ASSESSORS REG. FEES

Appropriation		\$150.00
Hampshire County Reg.		<u>\$35.00</u>
Balance		\$115.00

ASSESS. TAX MAP UPDATE

Appropriation		\$650.00
Spent	\$0.00	
Balance c/o '98		\$650.00

CEMETERY EXPENSE

Appropriation		\$3,000.00
Trans. from Savings		<u>\$600.00</u>
Available		\$3,600.00
Warren Ritter, Mowing, etc.	\$3,603.00	<u>\$3,603.00</u>
Balance		(\$3.00)

CIVIL DEFENSE

Appropriation		\$10.00
Spent		<u>\$0.00</u>
Balance		\$10.00

CONSERVATION COMM.

Carry Over		\$394.70
Postmaster	\$13.00	
Country Journal	\$11.88	
Total		<u>\$24.88</u>
Balance		\$369.82

COUNCIL ON AGING

Appropriation		\$1,000.00
Other		\$2,253.00
c/o bal.		<u>\$4,017.98</u>
Available		\$7,280.98
Joan Almorì, Reimb. Sup.	\$1,096.90	
Huntington Hardware	\$39.47	
T. Broga, Plumb.	\$65.00	
NYNEX	\$155.36	
Impress Prtg. Newsletter	\$262.00	
Dues	\$56.00	
Joyce Ryan, Basket class	\$100.00	

Ellen Miller, Brown Bags	\$110.00	
Stevens Carpet	\$72.96	
Postmaster, box rent	\$8.00	
S.Fastiggi, reimb	\$160.61	
Old Country Buffet, lunch	\$95.48	
P. Suriner, reimb	\$69.00	
Moody Energy, heat	\$585.24	
Total		<u>\$2,876.02</u>

Bal. c/o '98 \$4,404.96

CULTURAL COUNCIL

Available		\$7,204.72
Gordon Brook	\$400.00	
Sevenars	\$200.00	
Jim Douglas	\$480.00	
Becket Arts	\$200.00	
Blandford Fair	\$150.00	
Ruth LaPrise	\$150.00	
Laurie LaFreniere	\$29.92	
Fauna Autenreith	\$1,000.00	
Total		<u>\$2,609.92</u>
Balance to '98		<u>\$4,594.80</u>

DISPOSAL AREA

Appropriation		\$18,000.00
HRMC	\$208.94	
Matthew Drosehn, Supt	\$16.13	
Archie Main, Attendant	\$1,557.59	
Donald Savery, Eq. Op.	\$318.76	
Mass.Correctional, stickers	\$99.43	
City of Northampton	\$8,217.00	
Dave Wickles Trucking	\$4,980.00	
Robert Miller	\$7.50	
L.P. Adams	\$5.54	
Huntington Hardware	\$10.13	
Kathleen O'Brien, Attendant	\$607.50	
Brewster Pease	\$560.00	
Total		<u>\$16,588.52</u>
Balance		<u>\$1,411.48</u>

DOG OFFICER EXPENSE

Appropriation		\$100.00
Berkshire Humane Society	\$12.00	\$12.00
Bal.		<u>\$88.00</u>

DOG KENNEL

c/o bal \$272.00 29

DOG OFFICER SALARY		
Appropriation		\$400.00
Justin Sage	\$166.66	\$166.66
Bal.		<u>\$233.34</u>

ELECTIONS & REGIST.		
Appropriation		\$500.00
Rec'd from State		\$216.00
Trans from reserve		\$135.25
Total Available		<u>\$851.25</u>
Betty Oligny, teller	\$132.75	
E. Lois Lamb. teller	\$94.50	
Priscilla Suriner, teller	\$192.75	
Gustel Progulske, teller	\$78.75	
Shirley Savery, teller	\$98.25	
Mary Sternagle, teller	\$24.75	
Patricia Paschal, teller	\$89.25	
Cheryl Harper, teller	\$60.00	
Country Journal, ballots	\$80.25	
Total		<u>\$851.25</u>
Bal.		\$0.00

ELECTED OFFICIALS		
Appropriated		\$11,285.00
Peter Oligny, Moderator	\$60.00	
Marjorie Batorski, Town Clerk	\$1,000.00	
Nancy Pease, Treasurer	\$2,000.00	
Gustel Progulske, Assessor	\$1,000.00	
Kris Monson, Assessor	\$1,000.00	
Archie Main, Assessor	\$1,000.00	
Archie Main, Auditor	\$45.00	
Arthur Muller, Selectman	\$1,000.00	
Richard Progulske, Selectman	\$1,000.00	
Ronald Radwich, Selectman	\$1,000.00	
Neil Nickerson, Tax. Collector	\$2,000.00	
Donald Savery, Constable	\$90.00	
William Paschal, Constable	\$90.00	
Total		<u>\$11,285.00</u>
Bal.		\$0.00

FIRE DEPARTMENT		
Chief & Warden Salary		
Appropriation		\$425.00
Larry Pease, chief	\$425.00	\$425.00
Bal,		<u>\$0.00</u>

Firehouse Payment

Appropriation		\$1,750.00
USDA Rural Dev.	\$1,750.00	\$1,750.00
Bal.		<u>\$0.00</u>

Firehouse Interest

Appropriation		\$438.00
USDA Rural Dev.	\$437.50	\$437.50
Bal.		<u>\$0.50</u>

Dispatch Services

Appropriation		\$2,500.00
Berkshire County Dispatch	\$2,325.00	\$2,325.00
Balance		<u>\$175.00</u>

Fire Dept. Expenses

Appropriation		\$4,500.00
Trans to Assess Exp		(\$100.00)
Total Available		<u>\$4,400.00</u>

Charlies Garage, gas	\$337.70
Gleason Supplies	\$187.50
Gateway Auto	\$928.58
Merriam Graves	\$100.31
St. Martins, stickers & gas	\$107.75
Timothy Pease, tires	\$200.00
Com-Tech	\$607.40
Specialized Radio	\$475.00
L.P. Adams	\$45.50
Huntington Hdwe	\$148.35
Galls Inc., supplies	\$127.93
CESCO, parts	\$586.17
Pittsfield Fire & Safety	\$82.00
Amherst Environ. Lab	\$20.00
Hinsdale Mobil	\$89.60
Bud's Chain Saw	\$350.00

Total

\$4,393.79

Balance		<u>\$6.21</u>
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GATEWAY REG. SCHOOL

Appropriated		\$312,187.00
Trans to Machinery Exp.		(\$2,902.00)
Total Available		<u>\$309,285.00</u>
Gateway Reg. School Dist	\$309,285.00	
Balance		\$0.00

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY RET.

Appropriation		\$5,823.00
Hampshire Co. Retirement Sys	\$5,823.00	(\$5,823.00)
Balance		<u>\$0.00</u>

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY TAX

Appropriation		\$1,504.00
Hampshire Co. Treas	\$1,504.00	\$1,504.00
Balance		<u>\$0.00</u>

HEALTH & SANITATION

Appropriation	\$10.00	
Balance		\$10.00

HEALTH INSURANCE

Appropriation		\$5,000.00
Hampshire County Group	\$1,668.31	
CHP	\$2,212.06	\$3,880.37
Balance		<u>\$1,119.63</u>

HILLTOWN RESOURCE MGMT

Appropriation		\$1,373.00
HRMC	\$1,372.78	(\$1,372.78)
Balance		<u>\$0.22</u>

MIDDLEFIELD MUSEUM

Appropriation		\$500.00
c/o		
other		
Huntington Hardware	\$17.83	
Jack Cobb, Reimb	\$195.00	\$212.83
Balance		<u>\$287.17</u>

HISTORICAL COMM.

C/O BAL	\$1,747.83	
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HOLIDAYS & VACATIONS

Appropriation		\$3,000.00
Donald Savery, Eq. Op.	\$1,968.00	
Matthew Drosehn, Supt	\$856.00	
Lee Girard, Eq. Op.	\$160.00	
Total		\$2,984.00
Balance		<u>\$16.00</u>

INSPECTIONS

Appropriation		\$2,120.00
Building Insp, county	\$720.00	
Walter Smith, Bd. of Health	\$300.00	
John Savery, Elec.	\$300.00	

Eric Main, Elec.	\$100.00	
Larry Pease, Smoke,oil burn.	\$400.00	
W. Zeitler, Plumbing	\$300.00	
Total		\$2,120.00
Balance		<u>\$0.00</u>

INSURANCE

Appropriated		\$25,000.00
Trans to Mach. Exp		\$600.00
Trans to War Mem.		\$800.00
Trans to Soc. Sec.		\$2,000.00
Trans to Unemployment		\$1,600.00
Total Available		<u>\$21,200.00</u>
Hastings/Tapley	\$3,745.00	
MIIA	\$11,842.00	\$15,587.00
Balance		<u>\$5,613.00</u>

INTEREST-SHORT TERM

Appropriated		\$6,000.00
Trans to Dutch Elm		<u>(\$600.00)</u>
Available		\$5,400.00
Bureau of Accts	\$90.00	
BayBank	\$3,756.63	\$3,846.63
Balance		<u>\$1,553.37</u>

LIBRARY EXPENSE

Appropriation		\$1,000.00
c/o balance		\$4,767.88
Rec'd from State Grant		\$1,659.79
Total Available		<u>\$7,427.67</u>
GALE, encyclopedias	\$299.00	
Postmaster, box rent	\$24.00	
Brodart, books	\$587.45	
Baker & Taylor	\$591.97	
P. Oligny, reimb supplies	\$323.86	
Savery Elec	\$201.74	
Cynthia Oligny, Salary & sup.	\$532.47	
Staples, supplies	\$217.48	
Grolier Intl.	\$400.68	
Book of Month Club	\$104.05	
Soc. Studies Series, bks	\$183.00	
Total		\$3,465.70
Balance to carry over		<u>\$3,961.97</u>

MAINT. PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Appropriation		\$22,000.00
Trans from Insurance		\$2,300.00
Trans from Available		<u>\$2,300.00</u>
		\$26,600.00
Ed. Sanders, rep.	\$1,117.00	
WMECO	\$6,217.90	
NYNEX	\$3,037.27	
AT&T	\$273.32	
Savery Electric	\$446.12	
SafeHit DA Signs	\$40.78	
Huntington Hardware	\$119.35	
Moody Energy, gas	\$1,442.02	
Wheeler Oil, parts	\$45.00	
O'Connell Oil	\$6,421.39	
L P Adams	\$296.16	
Comm.of Ma., water test	\$35.00	
Hinsdale Timbers	\$40.00	
Pitts. Fire & Safety. Exting	\$71.25	
Brigham Paper, supplies	\$373.22	
K. R. Henshaw, well	\$2,059.00	
Brewster Pease, backhoe	\$720.00	
Matthew Drosehn, Supt	\$237.06	
Lee Girard, Eq. Op.	\$206.00	
Pittsfield Sand & Gravel	\$2,190.10	
Tom Broga, Plumbing	\$85.00	
	Total	<u>\$25,472.94</u>
Bal.		

MEDICARE

Appropriation	\$800.00	
Trans from Reserve	\$301.76	
Total Available		\$1,101.76
Bank Boston	\$1,101.76	
Bal.		\$0.00

OFFICE SUPPLIES

Appropriation	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Hobbs & Warren	\$114.50	
Hampshire County	\$149.82	
Dues	\$230.00	
US P.O., envelopes	\$363.20	
Maurice Pease. reimb.supplies	\$198.57	
Country Journal, adv.	\$53.20	
Postmaster, stamps	\$250.00	
NE Document Cons Center	\$10.00	
Discount Data	\$469.80	
Berkshire Eagle, ads	\$195.41	
Staples, supplies	\$293.43	

Lois Lamb, reimb. supplies	\$27.29	
Neil Nickerson, reimb supplies	\$18.02	
Metcalfe Printing, supplies	\$116.30	
	Total	<u>\$2,489.54</u>
Bal.		\$10.46

PIONEER VALLEY PLAN COM

Appropriation		\$60.00
Pioneer Valley Plan Comm.	\$58.80	<u>\$58.80</u>
Balance		\$1.20

Planning Board

Appropriation		\$10.00
Other		\$40.00
Available		\$50.00

Planning Board By-laws

Balance		\$500.00
Other		<u>\$5,140.00</u>
Available		\$5,640.00
Paradise Copies	\$284.00	
PVPC	\$5,356.00	<u>\$5,640.00</u>
Balance		\$0.00

POLICE CHIEF, salary

	\$400.00	
Thomas Austin, chief	\$400.00	
Bal.		\$0.00

POLICE EXPENSES

Appropriation		\$3,800.00
Trans from Reserve		<u>\$27.52</u>
Available		\$3,827.52
Gould Publ.,	\$141.80	
Comm. of MA	\$50.00	
Dues	\$550.00	
T. Austin	\$90.00	
Staples, supplies	\$725.23	
Whalley Computer	\$42.00	
Sentry Uniforms	\$135.35	
AirTouch Paging	\$745.98	
St. Martins, gas	\$193.15	
Curt Robie, reimb. postage, etc	\$50.75	
Paul Poudrier, new locks	\$110.00	
Postmaster	\$8.00	
Midas Muffler	\$139.40	

ProMark,shirts	\$218.50	
Jurek	\$96.87	
Hinsdale	\$227.54	
Raynors Bearings	\$75.95	
W.Ma.Chiefs,training	\$175.00	
Whelen Engr.	\$52.00	
	Total	<u>\$3,827.52</u>
Bal.		\$0.00

PRINTING

Appropriation		\$750.00
Country Journal	\$173.39	
Cindy Duby	\$102.00	
Copy Cats	\$354.00	
Total		<u>\$629.39</u>
Balance		\$120.61

POLICE DEPT VESTS

Grant		\$476.00
AAA Supply	\$476.00	
Balance		<u>\$0.00</u>

POLICE DEPT reimb insurance		\$568.75
Mikes Auto Body	\$568.75	
Bal.		\$0.00

POLICE DEPT GRANT

Available		\$4,500.00
Staples	\$671.97	
Thomas Austin	\$270.00	
Curt Robie	\$243.66	
Michael Pensivy	\$80.00	
Gateway Auto	\$45.95	
Gall's Inc.	\$128.96	
	Total	<u>\$1,440.54</u>
c/o bal. to fy'98		\$3,059.46

POLICE CRUISER -INSURANCE

Available		\$568.75
Mike's Auto Body	\$568.75	
Balance		<u>\$0.00</u>

RECREATION BB COURT

c/o	\$3,903.28	\$6,904.22
Donations	\$403.28	\$1,559.46
Available		<u>\$8,363.68</u>
Pittsfield Sand & Gravel	\$909.28	
Underground Supply, culverts	\$372.00	
Chase Precast	\$450.00	
E.J. Prescott	\$160.00	
Curt Robie, reimb., cement	\$9.45	
Jones Tractor, gravel	\$5,292.80	
D.R. Billings	\$120.00	
Gateway Auto	\$45.95	
Total		\$7,359.48

REC. EXPENSE

c/o		\$529.43
Middlefield Store	\$10.28	
Andrea Tosi, reimb. costume	\$45.00	
T. Ricardi, bird show	\$100.00	
Total		<u>\$155.28</u>
c/o bal. to fy'98		<u>\$374.15</u>

SELECTMEN'S SECY.

Appropriation		\$3,000.00
Betty Oligny	\$3,000.00	
Bal.		\$0.00

SELECTMEN'S EXPENSE

Appropriation		\$800.00
MMA Dues	\$368.00	
R. Progulske, mileage, reimb	\$167.44	
Peter Oligny, custodian TH	\$200.00	
Total		<u>\$735.44</u>
Bal.		<u>\$64.56</u>

SOCIAL SECURITY

Appropriation		\$1,000.00
Trans from Insurance		\$1,600.00
Trans from Health Ins		<u>\$1,700.00</u>
Available		\$4,300.00
BankBoston	\$3,901.95	
Bal.		<u>\$388.05</u>

STREET LIGHTS

Appropriation		\$500.00
WMECO	\$419.75	
Bal.		\$80.25

TAX COLL EXP

Appropriation		\$1,500.00
Dues	\$35.00	
Postmaster	\$488.00	
B&H Computers, MVE bills	\$22.50	
Hobbs & Warren, supplies	\$210.76	
Quill Corp, envelopes	\$219.60	
N. Nickerson, reimb. supplies	\$10.40	
Canton Business Supplies	\$130.00	
Total		<u>\$1,116.26</u>
Bal.		\$383.74

TAX COLL COMPUTER

Appropriation		\$2,500.00
Computer People	\$2,182.00	
Neil Nickerson, reimb.table	\$149.99	
Total		<u>\$2,331.99</u>
Bal.		\$168.01

TAX TITLE WORK

C/O		\$3,771.35
Koppleman & Paige	\$162.10	
Hamp. Co.Reg. of Deeds	\$20.00	
June Prue	\$820.00	
Total		<u>\$1,002.10</u>
c/o bal to fy98		\$2,769.25

TOWN COUNSEL

Appropriation		\$1,500.00
Koppleman & Paige	\$885.58	
Bal.		\$614.42

TOWN GARAGE ROOF REP.

Ins		\$22,560.00
Transfer from Stabilization		<u>\$5,216.00</u>
Available		\$27,776.00
Ed Sanders	\$27,776.00	
Bal.		\$0.00

TREE WARDEN

Appropriated		<u>\$100.00</u>
Bal.		\$100.00

FOREST FIRE PROTECTION

Appropriated		<u>\$10.00</u>
Bal.		\$10.00

DUTCH ELM DISEASE

Appropriated		\$150.00
Trans from Interest Acct		\$600.00
Available		<u>\$750.00</u>
J & R Tree Service	\$750.00	
Bal.		\$0.00

INSECT PEST CONTROL

Appropriated		\$100.00
J & R Tree Service	\$50.00	
Bal.		\$50.00

UNEMPLOYMENT COMP.

Appropriated		\$500.00
Trans. from Insurance		\$2,000.00
From Reserve		\$330.00
Total Available		<u>\$2,830.00</u>
Ma. Div. Empl. & Training	\$2,830.00	
Bal		\$0.00

VISITING NURSE

Appropriated		\$1,000.00
Lee Visiting Nurse Assoc.	\$1,000.00	
Bal		\$0.00

VETERAN'S AGENT

Appropriated		\$10.00
Bal.		\$10.00

WAR MEM & PLAYGROUNDS

Appropriated	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
Trans from Insurance	\$800.00	\$800.00
Trans from reserve	\$68.29	\$68.29
Total Available		<u>\$2,068.29</u>
P & M Richardson	\$640.00	
Rodney Savery	\$478.29	
Lee Girard, repair & mow	\$465.00	
Brewster Pease, exc.	\$485.00	
Total		<u>\$2,068.29</u>
Bal.		\$0.00